



**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbalà
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCalli
Teresa U. Madler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Albert J. Fasulo II*
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaton*

Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhullier
Rae Lynn Pregonian
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Rodney G. Maze
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael A. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
Jon E. Wright*

LuAnne M. Yuricek*
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Cowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Mary B. Tung
Katriona Y. Pei
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
John J. Figueroa
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Lisa A. Dunner
Evan R. Smith

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SEP 04 2003

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WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER
(202) 772-8619

INTERNET ADDRESS:
schwartz@skgf.com

August 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Mail Stop AF

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/829,066; filed April 10, 2001
For: **Method for Isolating and Recovering Target DNA or RNA Molecules
Having a Desired Nucleotide Sequence**
Inventors: Nisson *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4800002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
2. Return postcard.

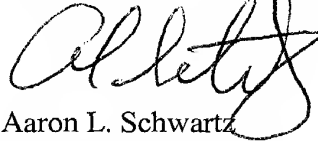
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
August 29, 2003
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Aaron L. Schwartz
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 48,181

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Enclosures



Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure - Art Unit 1634

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re application of:

Nisson *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/829,066

Filed: April 10, 2001

For: **Method for Isolating and
Recovering Target DNA or RNA
Molecules Having a Desired
Nucleotide Sequence**

Confirmation No.: 1532

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Lu, F.W.M.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4800002/RWE/ALS

SEP 04 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action dated May 29, 2003 (*See* Final Office Action, mailed May 29, 2003, hereinafter "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.